

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF JANUARY 4TH, 1939.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Public Works was held in the office of the Governor in the State House at Annapolis, Maryland, on Wednesday, January 4th, 1939.

Present:

Harry W. Nice, Governor.
Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller.
Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer.

Mr. Blakeman, State Budget Director, attended the meeting.

Dr. H. C. Byrd, President of the University of Maryland, appeared before the Board and made a verbal report relative to construction work in progress at the University of Maryland. He stated that the projects involving State funds and grants from the Public Works Administration were all underway at the present time, and that every item in the project set forth in his statement to the Board of Public Works last summer was under contract at the present time and work was in progress. Dr. Byrd advised the Board that he would make a written report and file it with the Secretary for the record.

The Board approved the execution of a deed from the State Roads Commission, and the Board of Public Works to M. Frank Ruppert, covering some land in Prince George's County not needed any longer for the State Roads System.

The Board approved budget amendments as follows -

Maryland State Board of Agriculture, dated December 29th, 1938, applicable to the fiscal year 1939, involving increases amounting to \$11,500.00, with decreases in a corresponding amount.

Spring Grove State Hospital, dated December 29th, 1938, applicable to the fiscal year 1939, involving increases amounting to \$1,905.00, with decreases in a corresponding amount.

St. Mary's Female Seminary, dated January 3rd, 1939, applicable to the fiscal year 1939, involving increases amounting to \$381.50, with decreases in a corresponding amount.

Spring Grove State Hospital, dated January 3rd, 1939, applicable to the fiscal year 1939, involving increases amounting to \$45.00, with decreases in a corresponding amount.

Maryland State Penal Farm, dated December 10th, 1938, applicable to the fiscal year 1939, involving increases amounting to \$983.33, with decreases in a corresponding amount.

Maryland Tuberculosis Sanatorium and Branches, dated December 16th, 1938, applicable to the fiscal year 1939, involving increases amounting to \$3,231.00, with decreases in a corresponding amount.

Crownsville State Hospital, dated December 14th, 1938, applicable to the fiscal year 1939, involving increases amounting to \$5,070.00, with decreases in a corresponding amount.

The State Teachers College at Bowie, dated January 3rd, 1939, applicable to the fiscal year 1939, involving increases amounting to \$2,793.70, with decreases in a corresponding amount.

The Board approved the request of Mr. F. W. Besley, State Forester, that he be permitted to purchase 3/5 acre of beach front land on the Chesapeake Bay, owned by George McHenry, and a road right-of-way, 3600 feet in length, thereto from the Elk Neck - Turkey Point County Road, for \$700.00, as set forth in his letter of December 21st, 1938.

The Board approved the purchase of 194 lots by the State Department of Forestry, as set forth in Mr. Besley's letter of December 3rd, 1938, at a cost of \$3,394.41.

The Board authorized the charging to the account for premium arising out of the sale of bonds of the General Bond Issue of 1937, as authorized by Section 8 of Chapter 487 of the Acts of 1937, of a deficit of \$3,865.86 in the account of the Emergency Bond Issue of 1935 in connection with construction at Eastern Shore Branch of the Maryland Tuberculosis Sanatorium, occasioned by the failure of the State to receive the full amount of grant money it was expecting from the Federal Government on projects at Spring Grove State Hospital and Eastern Shore State Hospital.

The Board approved the request of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles that he be authorized to charge off as uncollectible an account carried against the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Talbot County, in the amount of \$300.00, being a fine imposed against Gilbert Ewing in 1932. The Commissioner submitted a copy of his file in this case, and the Board being satisfied that it was impossible to determine whether the fine was actually paid, and if paid who received it, decided it was in order to authorize the Commissioner to write it off as uncollectible.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board some correspondence bearing on the request of the Tercentenary Commission that it be authorized to proceed with construction of a comfort station at the State House, St. Mary's City. The Commission recommended the awarding of the contract to James H. Mattingly, of Hollywood, one of six bidders who submitted proposals for the work.

As Mr. Mattingly's bid was not the lowest of the bids submitted, the matter of approving the request of the Commission was deferred.

The Comptroller brought to the attention of the Board, a communication from the Unemployment Compensation Board, relative to a claim against A. Weiskittle & Son Company, for Unemployment Compensation Taxes due for the year 1937. Because of the poor financial condition of the company and the necessity to be relieved of certain liabilities in order to continue business operations, the company requested that it be relieved of its liability for Unemployment Compensation Tax to the extent of the State's accepting \$651.70 in settlement of contribution due in the amount of \$6,358.09.

The Board agreed to the settlement proposed, provided the Federal Government acts favorably upon a similar request made of it for composition settlement.

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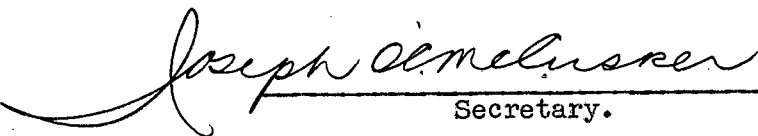
The Board approved the request of the Maryland Tuberculosis Sanatorium, for authority to enter into contracts for foundation and sewage plant at Henryton, the procedure in connection with this work and the letting of the contract being in accordance with rules and regulations of the Public Works Administration.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board claims from John T. Handy, Crisfield, Maryland and W. L. Tull, Crisfield, Maryland, covering damages to oysters in Pocomoke Sound by the dredging of Channel by the Federal Government, an appropriation having been made by the Legislature in 1935 to reimburse persons for such damages.

The claims were referred to the Conservation Department for investigation and recommendation. The Department recommended to the Board that the damage claimed by Mr. Handy had occurred as disclosed by an investigation made by the Department. In view of the Department's recommendation, the Board approved claim of Mr. Handy in the amount of \$6,272.82, and authorized payment thereof by the Comptroller.

As to the claim of W. L. Tull, the Conservation Department reported that it was unable to satisfy itself that Mr. Tull had suffered the damage outlined in his claim. Under the circumstances, the Board felt that it did not have satisfactory evidence before it in support of Mr. Tull's claim, and withheld approval.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.


Secretary.